

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Sunday Mass Times ~ Saturday Vigil 5 pm, Sunday 7 am & 9.30 am

Sunday 7 am Mass resumed 1st September.

No weekday Masses until further notice except public holidays.

Saturday 9 am Mass & 9.30 am Reconciliation (no 9 am Mass 14th September).

Public Holidays 9 am Mass.

Parish Priest ~ Father Stephen Berecz ~ Email: sberecz@gmail.com

Parish Secretary ~ Nathaniel Hood: phone (09) 373 3132 ~ Email: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

www.parnellcatholic.org.nz

Parking in St John's Car Park

Those attending Sunday or a weekday Mass do not need to pay if using the St John's car park. On a Sunday, you may leave your car in the car park for one hour after Mass (that is, till 11.30 am) without payment. Cars left beyond that time could be towed away.

On weekdays or Saturday Morning, you have fifteen minutes after Mass only.

Safe Church - Safeguarding

As Catholics we believe that every person is created in the likeness and image of God. Therefore, we continue to ensure that our parish is a place where everyone is treated with respect and dignity. We foster an environment which is welcoming, and in which all our parish whānau, including our tamariki, rangatahi, kuia and kaumātua, feel safe.

If you have any complaints or concerns, our Safeguarding Co-ordinator is Nathaniel Hood and you can contact him by phone (09) 373 3132 or email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

You may also contact the National Office for Professional Standards 0800-114-662.

You may also contact the police 111.

The Square Gift Store

(Catholic Shop)

Liston House, St Patrick's Square
43 Wyndham Street, Auckland CBD 1010

Tel: (09) 365 1693

Email: info@thesquaregiftstore.co.nz

St Vincent de Paul Society

Foodbank Donations

Our Parish welcomes your donations of non-perishable goods and personal care items. The donations basket is located on the left side of the main entrance as you go inside the church.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Contact the SVDP Food Support team at:

0800 680 090 or 815 6122

Email: foodbank@svdpak.org.nz

Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry

www.facebook.com/AKCYM

Contact Sam Brebner samb@cda.org.nz

Catholic University Ministry

FB: www.facebook.com/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy

[AucklandCatholicChaplaincy](http://www.facebook.com/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy)

IG: www.instagram.com/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy

[AucklandCatholicChaplaincy](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy)

Email: thechaplains@cda.org.nz

Mass: Deaf Friendly

- 12 noon, 2nd Sunday each month. Followed by shared lunch (BYO). Poynton Room, 30 New St, Ponsonby. NZSL adapted.

- 9.30am 4th Sunday each month. Good Shepherd Parish, Telford Street, Balmoral. NZSL interpreter present. www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/deaf-ministry

No cash but keen to donate?

Donations to the Parish should be to this account:

Acc. name: St. John's Parnell Parish

Account N°: 02 0108 0705969 000

Set up through online banking
or visit your nearest branch.

Register with the Parish for receipt.



PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

"Prepare a way for the Lord."

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 15TH SEPTEMBER 2024

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore my beard. —Isaiah 50:6

Since the time of the prophet Isaiah, the Messiah has been presented as the Suffering Servant. He suffered willingly and wholeheartedly. He did not rebel nor resist. He totally trusted God and was never disappointed. He is our model. We, too, have to do the same.

St James in our second reading says that faith, if it does not have works, is dead. Faith and good works always go together. Our faith must be active and effective. It must be translated into concrete acts of charity towards the poor and the needy. Our faith also tells us that suffering is part of our following of Christ. So we need to actively and effectively embrace suffering the same way we actively and effectively embrace grace and blessing.

Jesus, in the gospel today, asked His disciples how deeply they know Him. And after Peter's confession, "You are the Christ," Jesus taught his disciples not only about His impending death, but also, about His resurrection. They must be ready to embrace suffering and the cross. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me."

Recently, I was browsing my old photos and found a class photo taken when I was in year 4 at primary school (1989). I did not immediately recognise myself. I had to look very closely at the photo. And I found a very young and innocent-looking boy. I looked at the mirror and noticed the big difference. I changed a lot. But is it for the better?

We inevitably mature and grow old. Hardships can often easily take away our youthfulness, innocence and beauty. But for some, the effects of hardships could be very positive like, maturity, responsibility and an enhanced beauty. They age gracefully. Gold must be purified under fire to achieve its purest form. So, too, in our faith journey. Sufferings and challenges in life must bring out the best in us. Have we grown and matured in faith? Have we learned to embrace our crosses? Do we still worry, become anxious and afraid dealing with life's challenges? Always remember, the Lord is coming to help us.

Blessings! - *Fr Gilbert Ramos*



Muffin Talk with Fr Douglas Al-Bazi

On 14 September, we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This celebration recalls the restoration of Jesus' cross in 629 AD. In this interview Fr Douglas Al-Bazi, the priest of the Chaldean Community in Auckland, talked about how this feast is celebrated by his community. <https://youtu.be/no72fglMaWl>

Liturgy of the Word

~ Isaiah 50:5–9 To those who struck me I gave my back.

~ Psalm 114/116:1–6, 8–9 I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

~ James 2:14–18 Faith, if it has no works, is dead.

~ Mark 8:27–35 You are the Messiah. The Son of Man must undergo great suffering.

Next weekend: Wisdom 2:12, 17–20; Psalm 53/54:1–4, 6; James 3:16–4:3; Mark 9:30–37

For Sunday and weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com AND/OR www.livingtheword.org.nz

Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday 5 pm Fr Michael McCabe
Sunday 7 am Fr Stephen Berecz
Sunday 9.30 am Fr Stephen Berecz

Mass Times this week in Parnell

Saturday 9 am Mass resumes 21st September

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30 Reconciliation resumes 21st Sept

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St Michael's Remuera Mass times this week:

Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm
Mon 12 noon
Tue–Thurs 7 am, 12 noon
Fri 7 am

Saturday 9 am Mass cancelled 14 September

Mass celebrated at 12 noon instead. Thank you for accommodating this. Regular Mass schedule at St John's resumes next weekend.

Hope Reigns: A new prayer resource for Advent

This year's 25-day Advent resource, Hope Reigns, seeks to help you prepare for the birth of Emmanuel, God with us. Fr Stephen is considering purchasing a set for Advent 2025 if there is sufficient interest. If you would be interested in receiving a copy, please contact the office.

Altar servers needed in our Parish

If your son or daughter would like to serve at the altar for Mass, please speak to sacristan Peter Lye, or enquire at the Parish Office.

Email: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz.

Full training and support will be provided.

September Holy Hour

St Michael's next Parish Holy Hour scheduled for 27th September is cancelled.

Cans for Christmas

is a Charity that has run for 10 years now—we coordinate Catholic Primary Schools & Colleges to collect canned food items for St Vincent de Paul. During the last 9 years we have collected 160,000 cans & \$10,000 for St Vincent de Paul Society to help those in need. Please join us by donating to our page—This money goes directly to St Vincent de Paul.



St John the Baptist Statue Appeal

We have raised the necessary \$10,450 & a deposit has been made to the artist. Thank you to all who donated.

St Mary's College Past Pupils Association

Sunday 22nd September 2024. Mass will be celebrated by Fr Peter Tipene in Old SMC Chapel, New St, Ponsonby at 2pm. Followed by afternoon tea & AGM. RSVP to cathieharrop@gmail.com.

NZ Catholic Medical Association

Networking Event with Dr Mary English on 20 September. The event will be for healthcare students and professionals and is an opportunity to connect with each other, learn and be inspired.

Positions available St Joseph's Takapuna

Following restructuring of the parish staff, two positions have become available: (a) Executive assistant, a 25 hours per week role; & (b) Property manager, 10–15 hours per week. For position descriptions & to apply for a position, contact Fr Mark Napa frmark@stjoseph.org.nz. Applications close 27 September 2024.

Ethnic Chaplaincies Rise Up & Shine Festival

to be held on Sat 21 Sept to Sun 22 September at the Malaola Sāmoan Catholic Community Centre, 16 Waokauri Place, Māngere. A time of celebration with Food, Music, & Cultural Shows on Saturday 9am–3pm, & Thanksgiving Mass in the various languages & culture on Sunday at 1pm.

Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph annual appeal

held 21 September. As the Mother Church of our Diocese, it stands as an oasis of peace for all in Auckland. Bishop Steve invites all in the diocese to make a pilgrimage to the Cathedral.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

is accepting enrolments for first semester 2025 from 23rd September to 22nd November 2024. Courses offered are Bachelor of Divinity, Graduate Diploma in Theology, Diploma & Certificate in Christian Studies, & a new microcredential on Managing Church Organisations.

Dove Catholic Women's Fellowship, North Shore

invites women to join us on TUESDAY, 17th September 2024, 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas More Catholic Church hall, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield. Topic: BURNING BUSH Scripture: Exodus 3:1–2, 10.

Upcoming Retreats & Events at St Francis Retreat

Centre: For more info/dates & to book visit www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz or call 09 625 6651. **Time Out Days**—For those who seek a day retreat—9:30am–2:30pm (\$30 includes lunch) | Tue 15 Oct | Tue 5 Nov. **Transitus of St Francis**—Join us to commemorate the "passing over" of St Francis of Assisi with stories of his dying moments, hymns, music & drama. For more details & to register, visit our website | Tue 1 Oct | 6:30–8pm. **St Francis Open Day**—Join us to celebrate the Feast of St Francis. Come explore the grounds & learn more about St Francis. There will also be an Animal Blessing Service so please bring your pets | Sun 6 Oct | 3–4pm. **Job vacancy**—St Francis Retreat Centre is looking for a part time assistant groundskeeper to join our team to support landscaping & maintenance for our buildings & grounds. Key duties include performing minor repairs, assisting with maintenance, & managing grounds upkeep. Email emily@sfrc.org.nz to apply or if you have any questions. **24Hr Quietude**—For those who seek a short retreat—Fri 7pm–Sat 7pm (\$120pp incl accommodation + food) | Nov 22nd/23rd.

Card Crafting Workshop

will happen on Saturday 28th September. Meg Hills rsj is very skilled & gives excellent guidance on how to create your own personalised cards. The workshop is for those who have a small degree of experience in card-making. It provides an opportunity to design & create a variety of hand-crafted all-occasion cards that recipients will treasure. All materials are supplied. A maximum of eight people can attend this workshop. Please see the poster in the foyer for more information.

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially: Luke Sebastian Catiben, Scott Hickey, Maureen Adsett, Bernadette Tan, Chonusi William, Teana Jones, Maria Martho, Linus Broughton, Dawn Rocca, Lyn Sparks, Royston Beckham, AS, Margaret Everett, Ian Werder, Maryke Lind, Joy Mitchell, Francis Morais, John Kainuku, Christopher Browne, Serena Coughy, Adelaida Sison, Rita Lopez, Wayne Barden, Mary Bratton, John & Rosa Williams, Michael Wong, Yaroslav Khmel, Rosa Santos, Linus Broughton, Dawn Rocca, Royston Beckham, AS, Margaret Everett, Lyn Sparks, Ian Werder, Maryke Lind, Paul Mulderry, Louise Collins, Judy Hanna, Neira, Thilsi Vern, Ivy Hi, Dina Miranda, Malu Beltran, Vivien Emery, Gil Melling, Teresa Gudex, Corazon Villanueva Misa, Ben Hunt, Angela Robinson, Anne Telles, Kirei Tua, Maurice Robinson, Maura Just, Aaron Ablan, Alice Swann, Dennis Matthew, Marlee Owens, John Sullivan, Joy Agon, Lynn Welsh, Samira & Raj, James L. Cu, Linda Mole, Alberto Olarte, Ana Laura Robles, Brian Murphy, Christopher Hughes, BC, Ana Manjarrez, Sue Bedford, Joe Raymond, Patricia Wright, Sue Wynne Davis, Ann Gordon, Nicholas James, Bonifacio Sanches, Rosita Galarg, Gavin Alexander, Benny Clynes, Eric & Rachel Smith, J. Harrington, Rodolfo Paragas, Virgilia Velasquez, Shannon Kavanagh, Dennis Obillos.

We remember those who have died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Helen Mullin, Shane McGruddy, Cleofe Mora, Marian Saqueton, Murray Nash, Eduardo Sagge, Msgr Brian Arahill, Peta Knibb, Angus Gomez, John Fitzmaurice, Assid Corban, Pauline D'souza, Cyril Breslin, Maureen Godon, Jojo Deguit, Pat Glamazina, Trinidad Antolin, Kevin Gould, Russell Nelson, Johnny Austin, Johannes Wijoko, Florence Gomez, Michael Hon-tiveros, Barbara Richardson, Joe Coleman, Consuelo Katigbak, Felizardo Gacad, Mary Fernandez, Sr Maria McDonald OP, Ann Foss, Eric Kolhase, James Hurley, Jet Carib, Rosemary Griffen, Margaret McLean, Kath Clarke, Lorie Ayao-Shields, Nancy Kelly, Theresa Kemp, John Barret, Patricia Maher, Sharon Lim, Rose Blacklock, Patricia Borg, Alma Sands, Joseph Ang, Gwen McCarthy, Rodolfo De Asis, Maureen McQuoid, Alice Murphy, Des Rosser, Kathleen Reardon, Fr Ernie Milne IC, Jimmy Nicoll, Reenie Fernandez, Victoria Cano, Myra Philomena Cawthorn.

Enjoy a live-in retreat

beginning Friday evening October 4 at 7pm & finishing on Sunday 6 October at 4pm. This will be facilitated by Éamon Butler. The retreat is entitled Homecoming & will explore the parable of the Prodigal Son using Rembrandt's painting of the son's homecoming & insights from Henri Nouwen's book The Return of the Prodigal Son. There are limited spaces left for this retreat so please register soon if you wish to participate. All details are on the poster in the foyer.

Mums & Bubs

A social gathering for women & preschoolers to learn through music, stories & play. A great way for mums to meet other women to fellowship and share a chat. St. Thomas More Church Hall, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield. On alternate Wednesdays at 10–11am. Next session is on Wednesday, 25th September. Contact Sylvia on 021 088 22990.

Exploring Sacred Spaces

This series of events is organised by the Auckland Inter-Faith Council, led by a team of volunteers appointed by their communities or their religious leaders. You are invited to join us at the events mentioned on the poster in the foyer. See also: www.aucklandinterfaithcouncil.org.nz.

Long-Term Volunteer Opportunities

in the Australia-Pacific Region—The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco. We are seeking long term (6–12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2025 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Sāmoa, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands & Mongolia. Applications close October 31st, 2024. Send us an enquiry—cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au.